February, 2017

Hon. Laura Taylor Swain
United States District Judge
500 Pearl Street
New York, NY 10007-1312

Dear Judge Swain:

My name is Anthony Sansonetti. I am 40 years old and I first met David Hobson in 1996. David is my brother-in-law by marriage to my sister Catherine. I teach Martial Arts for a living and have since 1998. My career has included representing the United States in many martial arts competitions in six different countries. I have trained children and adults of ages four to sixty.. I also have taught members of law enforcement, while also helping to empower victims of sexual assault and domestic violence through training in the martial arts. I state this because I have spent endless hours with many different types of people. While I know that Dave has pled guilty to a nonviolent crime, I feel I should still tell the Court that I would fully trust David Hobson with my life.

I have a four year old son who is an only child. He has no cousins, no grandfathers and only one uncle, David Hobson. My son looks forward to calling his uncle Dave and visiting with them when they come to New York. The thought of my brother-in-law in jail honestly just breaks my heart. I do not know what I will tell my son. He knows what a "jail" is and it's "where bad guys go."

Does David Hobson really belong in Prison? I know it is not my place to say. But, I can at least tell you what I have seen. I have seen Dave feel defeated and I feel this experience has aged him. He took a job doing manual labor even though he has a bad back. His professional reputation that he was once so proud of is decimated. I also have seen Dave try to make the most of his bleak situation as he tries his best to take responsibility for his actions, get through some very tough times, and try to make some kind of plan for the future. I have no doubt whatsoever that he will continue to make every effort to make amends to his family and society by striving to make a new life for himself and my sister Catherine. I will do my best to support and encourage Dave as he rebuilds his life once he has served whatever sentence your honor deems necessary.

I humbly beg for your mercy in the sentence you pass on David Hobson.

Sincerely,

Anthony Sansonetti